

February 25-April 9

Kewpee High School Invitational: Young Artists at Their Best

Take a vibrant group of energetic and knowledgeable high school students. Add a dedicated cadre of art teachers in an 11-county area. A dash of competitiveness and a soupcon of idealism. A willingness to take artistic chances and a will to



Mandi Caskey
Shawnee High School
Rene's Still Life
1st Place Drawing and Best of Show

follow through on a vision. Finish with an experienced pair of jurors to assess the accumulated product and put together a varied and challenging exhibit. It's the recipe for one of ArtSpace/Lima's longest-running traditions: the *Kewpee High School Invitational*, on display in the Ellen Nelson Gallery from February 25 through April 9.

This year, nineteen schools sent entries. Bob Minto (ceramist and retired art teacher, Ada High School and University of Findlay, frequent ASL exhibitor) and Dave Cayton (emeritus

Professor of Art, Bowling Green State University) juried the show. Of a total of 357 pieces submitted, they juried in 113 works.

At the opening reception on Friday, March 4 (postponed from February 25 because of weather), prizes were awarded for First, Second, and Third Places in Photography, Ceramics, Painting, Sculpture, Drawing, Printmaking, Digital Art, Jewelry, and Mixed Media.

Bob Minto wrote in his Juror's Statement: "The students who received awards should feel honored because many of the categories were extremely competitive with high-quality works of art. . . . Creating art is a journey that artists travel. Everyone falls somewhere along the continuum from starting out to producing winning pieces. This show gives these young artists the opportunity to see where they fit on the continuum"

The winner of Best of Show was Mandi Caskey of Shawnee for her drawing, *Rene's Still Life* (see left). Other entry category winners can be seen on p. 2 and on the website: <http://www.artspacelima.com>.

April 15 - May 28

Spring Show 2011: A Major Tradition Continues

Save the date: Spring Show 2011 opens with a gala reception for the artists on Friday, April 15, from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Original works in painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, ceramics, sculpture, textiles, digital art and mixed media will be accepted during intake on April 6, 7, and 8 from 10:00 am till 5:00 pm, and on April 9 from 10:00 am till 2:00 pm. Jurying will take place on Monday, April 11.

Cont. on p. 3





Kewpee High School Invitational: The Category Winners



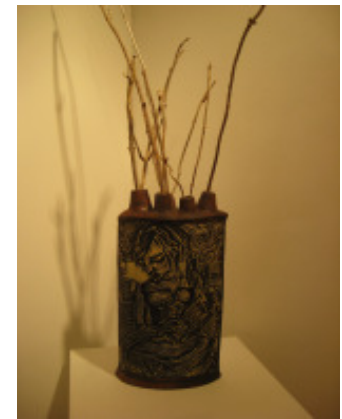
1st Place, Painting
Kelly McCarthy, *Tama Na*
Bluffton



1st Place, Ceramics
Samantha Schmenk, *Stars and Crosses*
Pandora-Gilboa



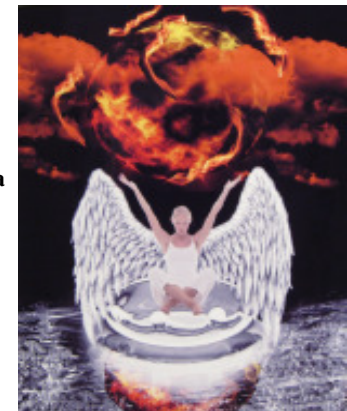
1st Place, Mixed Media
Bailey Bowers
Organic Cotton
Bamboo Blend
Ada



1st Place, Sculpture
Zach Gonder
Pixie Stick
Ada



1st Place, Jewelry
Hailey Griffio
Untitled
Shawnee



1st Place, Digital Media
Brandon Todd
In Good Hands
Apollo



1st Place, Photography
Kristin Roessner, *Rotten Apples*
New Knoxville



1st Place, Printmaking
Mandi Caskey, *Untitled*
Shawnee

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Spring Classes at ArtSpace

One of the more important pieces of ArtSpace programming occurs on Saturday mornings in April and May. That's when we'll be offering three hands-on art experience classes for kids.

Anna Fisher will teach two classes in *Ceramics*: the first for ages 6-8, will meet 9:00-10:30 am; the second for ages 9-12, 10:30-12:00 noon. In both classes, students will create a bird house, a mug, a self-portrait, and a woven ceramic bowl.

Then, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm, Maia Fisher will offer *Explore the Arts*, an introduction to several different media, including sculpey, papermaking, and drawing.

Kids' classes meet from April 16 through May 14. Each class has a fee of \$50.00. All materials are included in that tuition.

For adults, Barbara Spurgeon will offer *Watercolor II* and Alison King, *Photoshop II*, each a continuation of the introductory courses already offered. New this year for adults, *The Art of Weaving*. Anna Fisher introduces students to the ancient art, including the making of place mats, swags, and tapestry.

Adult classes meet Thursday, April 14 through Thursday, May 12. All are scheduled for 6:00 pm. Adult classes are \$50.00 plus supplies.

Please see the ArtSpace website, <http://www.artspacelima.com>, for a printable registration form. To avoid disappointment, early registration is strongly recommended.

Spring Show 2011

Cont. from p. 1

Multiple awards will include Best of Show (\$500), First Award (\$300), Second Award (\$200), and Third Award (\$150). In addition, there will be special media awards for Sculpture, Photography, Ceramics and Painting, as well as "The People's Choice Award," given to a work chosen by a poll of gallery-goers during the exhibit.

As in past years, entries not juried into the show are eligible for further jurying for inclusion in a *Salon de refuses*, to be mounted in ArtZone.



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Last Words from the Operations Manager

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose



The French axiom which makes my headline is probably too inclusive, almost certainly too world-weary (so French, of course) to cover all situations and events. In some cases, things change all too completely and permanently to be dismissed so casually.

The loss of Martha Farmer in January of this year was such a change. The local (and national) arts community will not be the same without her. As the tributes and eulogies came in, it became clear that we all knew what we had lost: an arts activist and *doer* of the old school. A participant-supporter, a citizen-patron whose active commitment set standards and modeled behavior. Others, of course (or maybe, we hope), will fill the space left void. Bob Farmer, Jr. has joined the ArtSpace Board of Trustees to, in his words, “continue the work that Mom started.” His “stepping up” brings a welcome sense of continuity and stimulates an optimism that the “même chose” may have a benign implication after all.

Still, from other perspectives, the current zeitgeist is not encouraging. When was the last time you heard someone bemoan the fact that students in the United States were “falling behind in art and music”? When was the last time a legislator assumed that the arts were not “discretionary spending”? Studies have repeatedly and conclusively shown, as they say, that student participation in art and music classes actually improves their scores in those subjects we say we most need improvement in, math and science. For a great read on the subject, see “Why Arts Education Is Crucial, and Who’s Doing It Best” by Fran Smith (<http://www.edutopia.org/arts-music-curriculum-child-development>).

At ArtSpace, we do our part, offering quarterly classes for kids and adults. There’s a rundown of this spring’s calendar on p. 3 and a printable enrollment form on the website.

Also on p. 3, we give thanks to our sponsors and donors, those special people, organizations, and businesses who, defying the zeitgeist, continue to make a tangible commitment to the ArtSpace mission and goals: to bring the arts experience to a broad clientele in northwest central Ohio. As so often in such interactions, “thank you” is not nearly commensurate with the benefit the sponsors and donors bestow. They are doing their part to counter what so often passes for “common knowledge.”

Best,
Bill Sullivan